

The biasing voltage may be connected to the gate or, alternatively, may be connected to one of the source or drain. Depending on where the biasing voltage is connected, all other areas are connected to a common potential.

The allowance of Claim 22 is hereby acknowledged. The objection to Claims 11-16 as being directed to allowable subject matter is also acknowledged.

Claims 1-10, 17-19 and 20-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Long et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 of the present invention is directed to a method of measuring capacitance of micro structures of an integrated circuit. The micro structure includes a first terminal separated from a second terminal and a third terminal by an insulator. The method includes applying a biasing potential to the second terminal and applying a common potential to the first and third terminals. An electrical characteristic is measured between the first and second terminals to determine the capacitance between the first and second terminals.

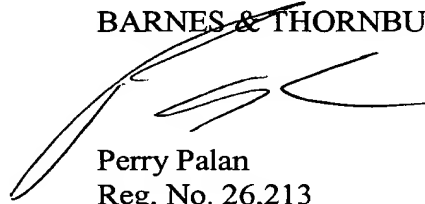
As discussed in the interview on March 3, 2004, Long et al. is directed to a method of measuring the potential between the gate 14 and the substrate 17. There is no other capacitance to be measured, as described in the patent. The gate 14 and the substrate 17 are at different potentials. Also, the source 15 and the drain 16 are at different potentials from the gate 14 and the substrate 17. Thus, if gate 14 and substrate 17 are terminals 1 and 2 or 2 and 1, respectively, the other terminals at source 15 and drain 16 are not at the same potential. If source 15 and drain 16 were at the same potential as substrate 17, they would not be forward biased, and the channel, whose capacitance is to be measured, would not occur. Thus, not only does Long et al. not anticipate the claims, it is not obvious to modify Long et al. Therefore, the claims of the present application are allowable over Long et al.

Having met all of the requirements, the subject application is in condition for allowance. Thus, the passage of this case to issue is hereby requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (35640/36899).

Respectfully submitted,

~~BARNES & THORNBURG~~

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Perry Palan', is written over the crossed-out firm name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Perry Palan
Reg. No. 26,213

Enclosure